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**April 1, 2005**

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**DCS Launches Internal Affairs Investigation After Child Fatality**  
**Commissioner also to conduct independent comprehensive case file review**

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** - The Tennessee Department of Children's Services is launching an internal affairs investigation and an independent review by Commissioner Viola P. Miller into a March 30 fatality of a two-year-old in Sullivan County. The commissioner's review will involve a comprehensive analysis of programmatic and systemic issues relevant to this case. The department also is cooperating with law enforcement in this matter.

"In a tragedy of this nature, it is pertinent that not only an internal affairs investigation be conducted to examine the prevailing and intricate issues at play," said Commissioner Miller. "In this instance, I also find it necessary to conduct a thorough case file review, in consort with executive level Child Protective Services staff, to ensure that best practices and departmental procedures are being upheld."

The department was conducting an investigation, involving the child in his home environment, when the fatality occurred at another residence. DCS caseworkers were working with the family and had scheduled a child and family team meeting for April 1, when family members would have convened to discuss concerns and related issues.

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